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CROPS AND MARKETS

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L A T E N E W S

Chile to Free Trade from INACO Monopoly - A decree of June 12, 1956, terminates the import monopoly of the INACO (National Institute of Commerce) as concerns coffee and yerba mate. The INACO still has a monopoly over imports and distribution of wheat, cotton, and tea. Consideration is being given, however, to the elimination of the two monopolies, cotton and tea.

CYPRUS TOBACCO
TRADE UP

Cyprian exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1955 totaled 1.6 million pounds, .3 million pounds greater than 1954, and larger than any other postwar year except 1953. For the first time since the war, approximately one-half of the island's tobacco was exported to the United States. Shipments of Yellow Leaf totaled 1.3 million pounds establishing a new record high with the United States taking more than 50 percent of the total. The Netherlands in recent years has become the second most important export outlet in contrast to the steady decline in shipments to the United Kingdom and Egypt. Exports of Latakia continued to decline through 1955.

Cyprian imports of both manufactured and unmanufactured tobacco continued upward through 1955. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco totaled 1.0 million pounds and were larger than any previous postwar year except 1952. The United States continues to be the principal source of supplies, but consignments from the Central African Federation are increasing. Takings of oriental tobaccos, mainly from Greece, which were the principal types imported before the war have declined to minor importance. Imports of cigarettes, almost exclusively from the United Kingdom, have increased substantially in recent years.

MALAYAN LEAF TOBACCO IMPORTS
AT POSTWAR RECORD LEVEL

Malayan imports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1955 totaled 2.2 million pounds, exceeding all previous calendar years since 1946. Imports from all the principal sources increased over the 1954 levels. Southern Rhodesia continues to be the principal source, but takings of United States flue-cured since 1953 have increased substantially and now represent a larger proportion of the total market. Prior to 1954, India was the principal source.

MALAYA: Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1955,
with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds
United States.....	34	183	797
Southern Rhodesia.....	181	582	983
Union of South Africa.....	-	36	67
India.....	219	234	309
Burma.....	37	28	26
Other.....	2	34	20
TOTAL.....	473	1,097	2,202

SOURCE: Malayan Statistics, December 1955.

PANAMA NOW PRODUCING CIGARETTES

Cigarette output in the Republic of Panama in 1955 approximated 300 million pieces as compared with about 200 million in 1954, according to a recent report. Currently, there are two firms producing cigarettes, Cia. Panamena de Tabaco, S.A., which started production in February 1954, and Tabacalera Istmena, S.A. in March 1955. Reportedly, a third cigarette factory is being organized.

The existing companies have been and still are conducting field experiments for leaf production in Panama. The unfavorable results thus far obtained have not dampened their enthusiasm to find satisfactory types of leaf tobacco that will grow in Panama. Their ultimate objective is to become self-sufficient in leaf tobacco.

AUSTRALIAN CIGARETTE OUTPUT CONTINUES TO RISE

Cigarette output in Australia in 1955 totaled 25.4 million pounds as compared with 20.2 million pounds produced in 1954. Cigarette output in 1955 exceeded the production of the other products, largely smoking mixtures for roll-your-own cigarettes, for the first time. Total output of the other products continued downward through 1955 and represented only 44 percent of total production in contrast to 59 percent in 1953.

On March 14, 1956, excise duties on manufactured tobacco products were increased about 10 percent. Cigarettes were increased 6 shillings (U.S. \$.67) per pound, which is equal to a retail price increase of 3 pence (2.8 U.S. cents) per pack of 20. The current excise duty of 31 shillings 10 pence (U.S. \$3.56) per pound is equivalent to about 14.8 U.S. cents per pack. The excise rates on cigars and manufactured tobacco (smoking) were increased 5 shillings 6 pence and 4 shillings per pound, respectively. Revenues derived by the Australian Government from tobacco accounted for about 6 percent of total revenues during the last two fiscal years.

MOROCCO INCREASES RETAIL PRICES OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Morocco's Ministry of Finance announced effective May 22 retail prices of tobacco products would be increased about 10 percent, according to a recent report. Brands of cigarettes retailing at 22 francs (6.3 U.S. cents) were raised to 23 francs (6.6 U.S. cents), 40-franc packs to 45 francs, 55-franc packs to 60 francs, and 80-franc packs to 90 francs. The price of most American cigarettes, which generally sold for 130 francs (37.1 U.S. cents) per pack, was increased by 15 francs (4.3 U.S. cents). The increase in prices was apparently intended to augment the revenue of the Moroccan Government.

GREEK DISPOSAL MEASURES
FOR 1955 TOBACCO CROP ANNOUNCED

A brief review of Greek governmental disposal measures for the 1955 tobacco crop has appeared in the National Economy of April 1956, published by the Greek Economic Information Agency. The press item is quoted below in full as of possible interest to the U.S. tobacco industry.

"The increased availability of credits to tobacco merchants has already been applied according to decision number 963, dated April 4, 1956, of the Currency Committee.

"On April 12, 1956 the Council of Ministers decreed that temporary purchase of a total 38.5 million pounds of tobacco by the State be approved; this amount must include 9.9 million pounds of tobacco from Central and Western Macedonia and 2.8 million pounds from the Thessaly area.

"The same decree authorized the Minister of Commerce to: (a) alter the amounts authorized above for Central and Western Macedonia and Thrace, and (b) approve additional areas from which tobacco could be bought under the specifications of the present decree fixing the FOB price which the State will guarantee for the purchase of such tobacco, provided that the total quantity remains within the 22.6 million pounds approved and taking into consideration the special circumstances of the various local tobacco markets.

"The tobacco merchants and the Cooperative Union of Greek Tobacco Growers (SEKE) are bound by an agreement to sell to the State, after processing, the tobacco which has been purchased by them for the account of the State with credits extended up to 90 percent of the FOB price, at the following FOB prices:

(a) Kamba-Koulak and similar, Cent.		
W. Macedonia I/III (first-third)	51.3 U.S. cents per pound	
IV (fourth)	13.6 U.S. cents per pound	
(b) Smyrna-type aromatic, Cent. and		
W. Macedonia I/III (first-third)	47.6 U.S. cents per pound	
IV (fourth)	11.3 U.S. cents per pound	
(c) Thessaly-Black I/III (first-third)		
IV (fourth)	42.6 U.S. cents per pound	
(d) Zichna Kanalion, Paleokastras aromatic		
I/III (first-third)	47.6 U.S. cents per pound	
IV (fourth)	13.6 U.S. cents per pound	

"The above prices are payable at the end of February 1957, at which time the Cooperative Union of Greek Tobacco Growers (SEKE) and the tobacco merchants are required to have ready for transmission to the State the quantities of tobacco purchased on its account."

Greek exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first 9 months of fiscal 1955-56 totaled 106.4 million pounds, valued at U.S. \$71.3 million, as compared with 102.6 million pounds, valued at U.S. \$58.9 million for the comparable period of fiscal 1954-55. The average price of tobacco exported during the current fiscal year was 67.0 U.S. cents per pound as compared with 57.4 U.S. cents per pound during the first 9 months of fiscal 1954-55.

ORANGE PRODUCTION IN BRAZIL CONTINUES TO INCREASE

The 1956 crop of oranges in Brazil is forecast to reach 34.5 million boxes. This would be 6 percent greater than the 1955 production of 32.5 million boxes. This upward trend in production is expected to continue during the next several years as the recent heavy plantings continue to come into production. Approximately 1 million disease-resistant trees were planted in 1953, another million in 1954 and 800 thousand in 1955. Heaviest plantings have been in the State of Sao Paulo. The States of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro and the Federal District contain most of Brazil's commercial production. Similar production increases are also occurring with the other citrus fruits.

Favorable weather conditions and recovery from early frost damage, together with an increased acreage in production, are responsible for this year's increased production. Also tristeza disease, which has caused heavy damage in past years, has been controlled to a greater extent this year.

Orange exports in 1955 totaled 1,300,000 boxes--a 46 percent increase over the previous year. Exports in 1956 are expected to show a smaller increase because of increased domestic demand and the small margin of profit obtained from exports. The increase in the exchange rate for fruit exports was not sufficient to encourage increased exports, and was more than offset by rises in transportation and labor costs. Argentina in recent years has been receiving more than one-half of Brazil's citrus exports.

Most of Brazil's citrus fruit is utilized in fresh form, as processing equipment and facilities for handling the processed products are practically non-existent.

U.S. EXPORTS LESS RICE IN APRIL

United States exports of rice in April of 619,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled were markedly below 1,202,000 bags in March, and were down somewhat from 751,000 bags during the same month of the year before. Principal countries of destination were Pakistan, Cuba, Liberia, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Rice exports of 7,992,000 bags in the August-April period of the current marketing year were 1,518,000 bags above those during the corresponding months of the year before. Gains were largely in exports to Asia under PL 480, to Pakistan, Indochina, and India.

RICE: United States exports in terms of milled, to specified countries, April 1956, with comparisons 1/

Country of Destination	August-July		August-April		April	
	1953-54:	1954-55:	1954-55:	1955-56 2/:	1955:	1956 2/
	1,000 : bags	1,000 : bags	1,000 : bags	1,000 : bags	1,000 : bags	1,000 : bags
Western Hemisphere:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canada.....	633:	560:	452:	340:	21:	20
British Honduras.....	17:	33:	31:	31:	4:	2
Honduras.....	3:	30:	23:	17:	2:	0
Haiti.....	2:	124:	55:	3:	0:	3/
Cuba.....	4,755:	3,391:	3,153:	2,504:	162:	82
Netherlands Antilles.....	53:	38:	30:	21:	3:	1
Bolivia.....	5:	0:	0:	153:	0:	0
Colombia.....	314:	205:	201:	10:	3/:	0
Venezuela.....	215:	84:	84:	32:	2:	3/
Other countries.....	30:	10:	6:	68:	0:	6
Total.....	6,027:	4,475:	4,035:	3,179:	194:	111
Europe:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	206:	460:	195:	183:	0:	31
Greece.....	11:	5:	5:	1:	3/:	3/
Ireland.....	0:	16:	16:	0:	0:	0
West Germany.....	29:	38:	9:	27:	0:	0
Netherlands.....	12:	71:	7:	5:	0:	0
Sweden.....	1:	72:	70:	9:	0:	0
Switzerland.....	57:	53:	49:	19:	0:	0
Other countries.....	24:	4/ 99:	8:	9:	0:	4
Total.....	340:	814:	359:	253:	3/:	35
Asia:	:	:	:	:	:	:
India.....	0:	0:	3/:	215:	0:	0
Indochina.....	0:	0:	0:	220:	0:	0
Korea, Republic of.....	590:	3/:	3/:	0:	0:	0
Japan.....	8,538:	4,125:	1,764:	2,282:	521:	3/
Saudi Arabia.....	130:	136:	123:	65:	0:	2
Pakistan.....	0:	0:	0:	1,088:	0:	426
Philippines.....	3/:	25:	1:	25:	1:	3
Other countries.....	25:	11:	9:	18:	0:	0
Total.....	9,283:	4,297:	1,897:	3,913:	522:	431
Total Oceania.....	17:	19:	18:	26:	2:	2
Liberia.....	67:	219:	150:	171:	31:	37
French West Africa.....	0:	0:	0:	416:	0:	0
Other Africa.....	6:	10:	7:	16:	1:	1
Other 6/.....	8:	14:	8:	18:	1:	2
Total world.....	15,748:	9,848:	6,474:	7,992:	751:	619

1/ Includes brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/Preliminary. 3/Less than 500 bags. 4/Includes 58,000 bags to Trieste and 23,000 bags to Austria. 5/Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the International Cooperation Administration. 6/Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than \$500 each when the number of such shipments to a country in a given month is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

RICE: United States exports, by country of destination
and by classification, April 1956 1/

Country of destination	Rough		Milled		Total (in terms of milled)
	Unmilled	In terms of milled	Not over 25% whole	Over 25% whole	
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
Western Hemisphere ²					
Canada.....	1,095	712	2,215	17,286	20,213
Mexico.....	0	0	0	969	969
British Honduras.....	0	0	0	2,000	2,000
Costa Rica.....	120	78	0	0	78
Bermuda.....	0	0	0	947	947
Cuba.....	7,155	4,651	4,000	73,769	82,420
Haiti.....	0	0	0	200	200
Netherlands Antilles.....	0	0	0	1,316	1,316
Panama.....	3,500	2,275	0	0	2,275
Guatemala.....	900	585	0	0	585
Venezuela.....	220	143	0	0	143
Total.....	12,990	8,444	6,215	96,487	111,146
Europe:					
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	500	325	0	30,231	30,556
France.....	0	0	4,528	0	4,528
Greece.....	0	0	0	152	152
Total.....	500	325	4,528	30,383	35,236
Asia:					
Saudi Arabia.....	0	0	0	2,181	2,181
Philippine Republic.....	0	0	2,702	0	2,702
Japan.....	0	0	0	400	400
Pakistan.....	0	0	0	425,948	425,948
Total.....	0	0	2,702	428,529	431,231
Africa:					
Liberia.....	0	0	0	36,980	36,980
Union of South Africa.....	0	0	0	670	670
Total.....	0	0	0	37,650	37,650
Trust territory of the Pacific	0	0	0	1,625	1,625
Other ² /	500	325	500	1,296	2,121
Total world.....	13,990	9,094	13,945	595,970	619,009

1/ Preliminary. 2/ "Other" includes shipments valued at less than \$500 each when the number of such shipments to a country is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

BURMA'S RICE EXPORTS INCREASE DUE TO TRADE AGREEMENTS

Burma in May signed trade agreements with 3 countries for the export of rice totaling 350,000 long tons (1 long ton = 2,240 pounds) in the next year. Countries of destination are India, Mauritius and Bulgaria.

The most important of the agreements was one signed with India for export of 2 million tons of rice over a 5-year period, with delivery to begin in June 1956. Agreement eventually was reached between the two countries whereby, rather than India buying 2 million tons at £36 per long ton (\$4.50 per 100 pounds), the basic prices are £34 per long ton (\$4.25 per 100 pounds) for 300,000 tons in the first year; £33 per long ton (\$4.12 per 100 pounds) for 500,000 tons in the second year; £32 per ton (\$4.00 per 100 pounds) for 500,000 tons in the third year; with prices in the fourth and fifth years for the remaining amount to be fixed in relation to prevailing world prices.

An agreement was signed with Mauritius on May 18 for the export of 30,000 tons of rice to be delivered between June 1956 and March 31, 1957. Quantities and prices are to be 23,000 to 24,000 of Milchar No. 1 at Kyats 506.67 per long ton (\$4.75 per 100 pounds) and 6,000 to 7,000 tons of Long Boiled at Kyats 550.00 per ton (\$5.16 per 100 pounds). The rice is to be of the 1955-56 crop.

Burma and Bulgaria on May 16 signed a 1-year trade agreement for the export of Burmese rice for Bulgarian machinery and other goods. Bulgaria will purchase 20,000 long tons of rice to be delivered f.o.b. Burmese ports, with goods of equivalent value to be delivered on a basis of c.i.f. Burmese ports.

Burma's rice export commitments from January through April for rice to be shipped in 1956 were as follows:

Country of destination	Crops				Total
	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56		
	1,000 long tons				
Mauritius.....	10	--	---	:	10
Ceylon.....	--	69	100	:	169
U.S.S.R.	--	54	100	:	154
Indonesia.....	--	17	100	:	117
Philippines.....	--	12	--	:	12
Yugoslavia.....	--	2	(gift) 20	:	22
Japan.....	--	--	246	:	246
China.....	--	--	150	:	150
Poland.....	--	--	42	:	42
Israel.....	--	--	5	:	5
Ryukyus.....	--	--	30	:	30
Private sale.....	20	4	3	:	27
Total.....	30	158	796	:	984

In addition to the sales listed on page 9, the Soviet Union in an agreement signed April 1, 1956, is to take in the years 1956 through 1959, rice in the amount of 400,000 tons annually. This rice is to be paid for in goods and services. In this manner, it should always be possible for Burma to dispose of rice, provided it cannot be sold for cash. It should be pointed out that the 100,000 tons of the 1955-56 crop listed in the table are included in this 400,000 tons.

Therefore, as of June 1, rice sales for export from Burma during 1956 have been reported as more than 1,600,000 long tons. This total does not take into account unreported cash sales or deliveries since January 1 from current stock of unshipped balances against 1955 contracts. It is quite likely that total exports this year will exhaust available supplies from the 1955 and earlier crops.

COSTA RICA INCREASES IMPORTS OF BREEDING CATTLE

The number of breeding cattle imported by Costa Rica has been increasing steadily since 1953. Approximately 325 head were imported in each of the last 2 years. More than 60 percent of the cattle imported were Zebu and Brahman breeds. Red Poll, Santos Gertrudis, Brangus, Ayshires, Holsteins, Jerseys, Guernseys, and Charbrays were also included.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL MARKET STRONG

Wool sales were held in Melbourne, Australia during the week ending June 8. A total of 50,000 bales were offered. A large proportion were combing wools from the Riverina areas of New South Wales and the northern areas of Victoria. A considerable portion were oddments, crutchings and prematurely shorn wools which are normal for this time of the season.

The market was strong with widespread demand. Price advances were recorded for fine merino and comeback qualities. Crossbred wools were firm but carding wools were in less demand and declined in price.

Australian mills purchased large quantities of the offering and buyers representing continental Europe, Japan and the United Kingdom were very active.

The New Castle sale scheduled for the week ending June 8 was cancelled due to labor difficulties.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.

(Current prices with comparisons)

Type and Grade	Week Ended		
	6-1-56	6-8-56	Year ago 6-10-55
	U.S. DOLLARS PER POUND		
<u>Combing Wools</u>			
70's Good.....	1.46	1.46	1.45
Average.....	1.40	1.41	1.35
64's Good.....	1.33	1.37	1.31
Average.....	1.29	1.31	1.27
60's Good.....	1.18	1.23	1.20
Average.....	1.14	1.17	1.16
58's Good.....	1.04	1.09	1.13
Average.....	1.01	1.03	-
56's Good.....	.91	.93	1.04
Average.....	.89	.90	-
50's Good.....	.81	.82	.91
Average.....	.79	.80	-
<u>Carding Wools</u>			
Merino.....	.86	.83	.79
Comeback.....	.77	.75	.75
Fine Crossbred.....	.73	.69	.74
Medium Crossbred.....	.71	.67	.74

Source: Wool Statistical Service of Australian Wool Bureau.

FRANCE LIBERALIZES IMPORTS OF MEAT AND CATTLE

French imports of meat and cattle for slaughter have been liberalized completely for the period of April 1-June 30, 1956. During this period, import duties were suspended and compensation taxes were waived. The importation of 3,000 tons of meat in April had no effect upon domestic prices, since these already were low and close to price levels in other countries.

All meat consumed in France, including imports, is taxed 55 francs per kilo as slaughter fee. Proceeds from such taxes are used for the support of disease control work and some for the subsidy of the dairy industry. At the present the per capita meat consumption in France is the highest in Europe.

JAPAN'S TALLOW IMPORTS DOWN IN JANUARY-MARCH

Japan's imports of tallow in January-March 1956 totaled 41 million pounds, or a decrease of 23 percent from the 53 million pounds imported during the corresponding period a year ago. Tallow imports for January-December 1955 of 259 million pounds, however, represented an increase of 24 percent from total imports of 209 million pounds in 1954. Practically all of the tallow imported into Japan comes from the United States.

Lard imports into Japan during the first 3 months of 1956 totaled 3.9 million pounds, or more than 5 times the quantity imported in the first 3 months of 1955. Total lard imports for the year 1955 were 6.9 million pounds.

Ocean freight rates for tallow shipments (both drummed and bulk) from all U.S. ports (East Coast, Gulf and West Coast) to Japanese base ports were increased by \$2.50 per long ton (2,240 pounds) effective May 1, 1956. This increase brings the ocean freight rates for drummed and bulk tallow from U.S. East Coast and Gulf ports to \$30.50 per long ton, whereas from the West Coast the rate for drummed tallow is \$29.00 and bulk tallow \$30.00 per long ton.

U.K. CALF SUBSIDY PAYMENTS \$115 MILLION SINCE 1946

The payment of a calf subsidy is one of the most important factors in stimulation of domestic meat production. Since 1946 the producers have been subsidized for the raising of about 11.9 million head of calves.

The total cost during the past eight years was \$115 million, while the cost of administering the system was \$5.5 million.

MEXICAN EXPORTS OF HENEQUEN
CORDAGE AND TWINE INCREASE

Mexican exports of henequen fiber and products through the port of Merida, the principal outlet for this commodity, increased in the first quarter of 1956 over the last quarter of 1955. Rope and twine accounted for the net increase. Henequen fiber exports stopped altogether and exports of other henequen manufactures, tow, waste, and juice decreased. Total current exports, however, are slightly smaller than those in January - March 1955.

Exports from Merida in January - March 1956 totalled 36.7 million pounds of rope and twine, 2.6 million pounds of other manufactures, and 48,100 pounds of juice. Exports in the preceding quarter included 25.3 million pounds of rope and twine, 3.4 million of other manufactures, and 48,800 pounds of juice. Henequen fiber totalled 2.1 million pounds in the preceding quarter. Almost all exports are to the United States.

Shipments to other parts of Mexico in January - March included 42,700 pounds of fiber and 8.9 million pounds of manufactures. These included 5.9 million pounds of rope and twine, 2.9 million pounds of sacks, and 0.1 million of cloth.

The Union of Henequen Producers, through its president, is endeavoring to obtain permission through Mexico City to export henequen fiber freely. The Union is reported to allege that "Cordeleros de Mexico" is a monopolistic organization with the intent to force fiber prices down. Most of the production of fiber is now absorbed by the association. A total of 43.7 million pounds of fiber was received during January - March, and 41.9 million during the preceding 3 months.

Consumption of fiber has been at about the same level as production. No stocks were reported on December 31, and less than 0.7 million pounds were reported as of March 31.

Of the 36.7 million pounds of cordage exported in the first quarter of this year, 35.1 million were shipped to the United States, 0.9 million to Canada, 0.4 million to Honduras, and the remaining 0.3 million to other Western Hemisphere countries. Baler twine made up 23.0 million pounds of the cordage destined for the United States. More than 5.6 million pounds were binder twine, 5.7 million pounds were uncoiled twine, and most of the balance was rope.

CANADA REPORTS GOOD PROGRESS IN GRAIN SEEDING

Canada's spring grain seeding was well advanced at the end of May, and was well ahead of seeding a year earlier, according to a report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued in mid-June. Spring wheat seeding was estimated to be 97 percent completed, compared with 87 percent at the same date of 1955. Oats, as estimated at 73 percent completed, was about the same as a year earlier, but barley was much more advanced, 76 percent compared with 57 percent a year earlier.

After a slow start because of unfavorable weather, seeding of spring grains in the Prairie Provinces proceeded rapidly during the last 2 weeks of May. Eastern Provinces, in contrast with the important producing Prairie Provinces, are much behind last year's progress, because of continued cool, wet weather. The Eastern Provinces account for about 12 percent of the intended acreage of the grains covered by the report.

Weather since May 31 has favored rapid completion of seeding. In most areas of Eastern Canada, however, unfavorable weather has continued and progress has been disappointing.

Reports of the condition of winter wheat, grown principally in Ontario, indicate that approximately half that crop is average and most of the remainder below-average condition. Present estimates place loss from winter-kill at 11 percent of the area seeded last fall. This compares with 5 percent the previous year. Winter-killing of fall rye was also much larger than that of a year ago.

WESTERN GERMAN SEED IMPORTS EXPECTED TO INCREASE

The seed imports program of Western Germany, because of unfavorable production prospects in that country, is likely to be somewhat larger than in 1955. The long, severe winter and the cold backward spring adversely affected crop prospects in Germany for Italian ryegrass and crimson clover seed. Smaller supplies in the countries normally supplying seeds to Western Germany will likely be reflected in larger procurement in the U. S.

The principal seed imports from the U. S. will be hybrid seed corn, alfalfa, Ladino clover, perennial ryegrass and alsike clover. Smaller quantities of a number of other grasses and legumes may be included in the program when domestic production is forecast, probably around the first of September.

Imports of vegetable and flower seeds from the U. S. are likewise expected to be slightly larger than in the 1955-56 crop year. Announcement of the program will probably be made early in July.

U.S. GRASS AND LEGUME SEED EXPORTS
SHOW SEASONAL DECLINE IN APRIL

Exports of grass and legume seeds in April 1956 amounted to 3.3 million pounds compared with the slightly more than 4 million pounds total in March. Although the decline is seasonal, the amount exported in April was about 3 times the amount shipped during the corresponding month in the last 2 years.

Shipments of seeds to Europe in April amounted to 2.3 million pounds, as compared with 1.6 million pounds in March and 3.1 million pounds in February.

U.S. EXPORTS: Grass and Legume Seeds, April 1956,
with comparisons

Kind of Seed	April		July 1, 1954, to April 30, 1955	July 1, 1955, to April 30, 1956 1/
	1955	1956 1/		
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Alfalfa.....	148	342	10,435	11,265
Alsike.....	0	-	532	58
Other clovers.....	40	185	10,015	2,184
Fescue.....	59	-	1,528	420
Kentucky bluegrass.....	5	-	1,026	227
Orchard grass.....	49	-	249	26
Redtop.....	0	-	420	387
Timothy.....	509	-	1,360	555
Other grasses.....	314	2,786	23,225	10,281
TOTAL GRASSES AND LEGUMES	1,124	3,313	48,700	25,403

1/ Grass and legume seeds data on exports limited to three categories by Bureau of the Census, effective January 1, 1956. "Other clovers" now includes alsike; fescue, etc.; have been added to "other grasses".

Compiled from official statistics of the Bureau of the Census.

DROP IN DANISH SEED OUTPUT EXPECTED

The most outstanding feature in the current Danish seed situation is the apparent confusion on the part of the Danish seed companies as to the prospective supply and demand situation in 1956-57. Substantial areas under legumes as well as grass seeds, planted for harvest in 1956, have been plowed under during the 1955-56 season due to various types of damage to the plants and because of the slump in prices during the fall of 1955. Furthermore, the remaining fields in many areas have a rather thin and spotted stand of plants. Nevertheless, provided good weather prevails during the remaining part of the growing season, it should still be possible to have nearly normal yields for most grass and legume seed crops.

It is expected, however, that the output of seed in 1956 will be significantly below the level in 1955. Carry-overs of most grass and legume seeds by the end of the 1955-56 season, except for red clover and ryegrass, will also be fairly limited. The over-all export availabilities of Danish grass and legume seeds during the 1956-57 season, therefore, will be less than during the preceding season.

In spite of the uncertainties which are attached to the final outcome of the Danish seed crop in 1956, the main question in the minds of most Danish seed companies is the possible demand. The Danish seed merchants obviously expect that the enactment of the U.S. Soil Bank will mean a great stimulus to the world market demand for grass and legume seed. Nevertheless, the Danish seed market at the present time would suggest that the Danish seed companies are very reluctant both to sell and to buy.

HALF OF CHILE'S EXPORTABLE 1956 BEANS COMMITTED

More than half of Chile's exportable beans from the 1956 harvest, completed last April, were exported or authorized for export as of May 15. Only 270,000 bags of the following classes were remaining:

<u>Class</u>	<u>1,000 bags</u>
Arroz (white navy)	130
Cristales	90
Red kidney	30
Small red	10
Triguillos (similar to Arroz)	10
Total	270

The 270,000 bags remaining plus the 320,000 already exported or authorized for exports as of May 15 totals 590,000 bags. This is smaller than an earlier estimate of 750,000 bags reported in the April 23 issue of this publication.

The revised estimate is more nearly in line with Chilean exports of other recent years which were as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>1,000 bags</u>
1951	360
1952	670
1953	582
1954	681

As of early June, brokers were offering in pound Sterling the equivalent of \$5.60 per bag for Chilean Arroz while the Chilean price was \$6.60. Germany was offering \$7.70 for Cristales against a domestic price of \$10.00 and Cuba was offering \$13.40 for Red Kidneys against \$14.00 domestically.

CITRUS PROSPECTS IN SPAIN DOWN SHARPLY

Moisture conditions in Spain are generally excellent and the weather has been mild during May and the early part of June. During the early part of June, there was some damage from hail storms in the Valencia area. The hail affected garden crops, apricots, plums, and citrus fruit causing slight damage.

The citrus crop for the 1956-57 season in the Castellon-Valencia area of Spain is forecast at 9.5 to 12.5 million boxes. This compares with a normal crop of about 37 million boxes. Many of the trees have not recovered from the severe frost damage of last winter.

SPANISH ALMOND AND FILBERT CROP FORECASTS BELOW AVERAGE

The 1956 commercial almond crop in Spain is now forecast at 14,000 short tons, shelled. Although somewhat higher than earlier indicated, the expected harvest is still much below average production (1949-53) of 26,600 tons. It represents the second successive short crop in Spain, since 1955 production was estimated at only 13,000 tons.

The oncoming commercial filbert crop in Spain is forecast at 14,000 short tons, unshelled. This compares with last year's harvest estimated at 12,000 tons and average production (1949-53) of 15,700 tons.

Stocks of both almonds and filberts are reportedly extremely low and beginning inventories August 1, 1956 will be virtually non-existent.

1956 BRAZIL NUT FORECAST NOW MORE OPTIMISTIC

The 1956 Brazil nut crop in Brazil is now forecast at approximately 32,000 short tons, unshelled, according to trade reports from the producing areas. This is somewhat more optimistic than earlier indications. The 1955 crop, an exceptionally large one, amounted to 35,000 tons. The 5-year average (1949-53) is 29,100 tons. A good harvest is reportedly now taking place in the Lower Amazon region (around Itacoatiara, principally) which nut traders hope will partially cover the small crop harvested in the Tocantins River area. The Jary River area is also harvesting above preliminary indications.

AUSTRALIA HAS OPPORTUNITY FOR SEPARATOR MANUFACTURER

A recent study by an Australian group revealed that Australia presented an investment opportunity for a manufacturer of cream separators. Although one of the leading dairy countries of the world, Australia was reported to be almost entirely dependent upon imports for its cream separators. Imports of the item have averaged more than \$500,000 annually for the past 5 years. With population and economy expansion and increased dairy production, requirements of equipment will be even greater.

Basic materials used in the manufacture of separators are said to be readily available in Australia and the precision engineering methods involved are within the capabilities of Australian industry.

United States firms interested in the opportunity may avail themselves of a copy of the preliminary Australian study by writing the Investment Development Division, Bureau of Foreign Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

WESTERN GERMANY'S BUTTER IMPORTS DOWN BUT CHEESE ABOVE LAST YEAR

In the first quarter, 1956, Western Germany imported 21.5 million pounds of butter compared with 28.7 million pounds in the same quarter a year ago. The principal suppliers were the United States (6.5 million pounds), Denmark (5.4 million pounds) and Sweden (3.1 million pounds), with the balance coming mostly from the Netherlands, New Zealand and France.

Imports of cheese at 32.3 million pounds were approximately 11 percent above January-March last year. The Netherlands was the principal supplier (17.6 million pounds), followed by Denmark (12.3 million pounds). Shipments were also made by Switzerland, Sweden and New Zealand in this period.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Wholesale prices at specified markets

(U. S. cents per pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Date 1956	Price	Quotations		Date 1956	Price	Quotations	
			Month	Year			Month	Year
			earlier	earlier			earlier	earlier
<u>United Kingdom (London)</u>								
New Zealand finest grade.	May 31	41.2	36.2	42.8	-----	---	-----	-----
New Zealand finest white.	-----	----	----	----	May 31	31.8	31.8	19.5
<u>Australia (Sydney)</u>								
Choicest butter.....	June 1	45.3	45.3	41.8	-----	---	-----	-----
Choicest cheddar.....	-----	----	----	----	June 1	27.5	27.5	25.7
<u>Irish Republic (Dublin)</u>								
Creamery butter.....	June 1	48.9	48.9	48.9	-----	---	-----	-----
Cheese -	-----	----	----	----	June 1	30.8	30.8	30.8
<u>Denmark (Copenhagen)</u>								
	May 31	34.5	42.9	43.7	-----	---	-----	-----
<u>France (Paris)</u>								
Charentes Creamery butter	June 4	79.2	84.6	66.2	-----	---	-----	-----
<u>Germany (Kempten)</u>								
Markenbutter.....	May 30	65.9	66.2	64.1	-----	---	-----	-----
<u>United States</u>								
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	June 1	59.4	59.4	57.8	-----	---	-----	-----
Cheddar (Wisconsin).....	-----	----	----	----	June 1	35.1	34.7	33.1
<u>Netherlands (Leeuwarden)</u>								
Creamery butter.....	May 31	49.3	49.3	48.4	-----	---	-----	-----
Full cream Gouda.....	-----	----	----	----	May 25	22.7	23.0	22.1
Edam 40 percent.....	-----	----	----	----	May 25	20.4	20.8	20.5
<u>Belgium (Hasselt)</u>								
	May 31	73.6	73.4	70.0	-----	---	-----	-----
<u>Canada (Montreal)</u>								
1st grade creamery.....	May 19	58.2	58.2	56.8	-----	---	-----	-----
Ontario white.....	-----	----	----	----	May 26	30.4	30.2	30.0

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee, U. S. Consular Reports, and the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA COMPLETES DAIRY YEAR

During the 1955 season (ending September 30), milk production in the Union of South Africa totaled 4.5 billion pounds, about 1 percent over the previous season. Because of unprofitable cheese exports during 1954 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, January 17, 1955), the Dairy Industry Control Board diverted much of the milk normally utilized in cheese production toward the manufacture of butter. The net result was a 5 percent increase in factory butter production and a 4 percent decrease in factory cheese output. The 1955 butter figure is 76.6 million pounds and the factory cheese production figure is 26.4 million pounds.

A surplus of canned milk from the previous season's production caused factories to limit their production in 1955. Last season's output of canned milk was 7.4 million pounds under 1954 and totaled 52.4 million pounds. Powdered milk production of 8.5 million pounds during the season was 700,000 pounds over 1954, due somewhat to the operation of a new factory.

South West Africa, a trust territory of the Union, reduced factory production of butter by 5 percent and cheese by 11 percent from the 1954 season. The 1955 figure for butter is 10.4 million pounds and cheese 583,000 pounds. Dairy produce not consumed domestically in South West Africa is marketed through the facilities of the Union's Dairy Industry Control Board.

NATIVE CREAMERIES PROVE PROFITABLE IN TANGANYIKA

A loan of \$210 in 1953 to establish one creamery has resulted in 6 native creameries currently operating in the Kasulu area of Tanganyika. The creamery project was started to enable the Waha tribesman to obtain some cash from their animal wealth. The milk was skimmed at the creamery and the cream processed into ghee; the skim milk was used in the local school.

The creamery made about a ton of ghee a month which was sold for a price of approximately 21 cents a pound. Within a year after the loan was made, it had been repaid. By the beginning of this year the other five creameries, started in the wake of the success of the original plant, had all paid back their loans and were showing small profits of \$100 to \$150, all under the supervision of the District Agricultural Officer. However, now that the creameries are operating at a profit, the control is to be vested with the natives under a cooperative organization.

The Waha tribesman have a reputation for treating their cattle as "one with the family". As a result, the milk delivered to the creameries has been maintained at a high degree of cleanliness and the ghee produced from the 5.5 percent fat test milk is considered the best in Tanganyika.

WORLD OUTPUT DAIRY PRODUCTS FIRST QUARTER 1956
SHOWS INCREASE BUTTER, CHEESE AND DRIED MILK,
AND DECREASE CANNED MILK

Factory production of butter, cheese and dried milk was up, canned milk production was down in the major producing countries in the first quarter of 1956, compared with the same quarter of 1955.

In the Southern Hemisphere, conditions were generally favorable for production in most dairying areas. In some countries of Western Europe, production was hampered by continued cold weather which retarded pastures. Despite changeable weather conditions in various sections of both Canada and the United States, first quarter milk production was well above that of a year ago.

Factory butter production in the January-March quarter, 1956, increased 9 percent over the corresponding quarter of 1955. Output in both Australia and New Zealand ran well above that of the preceding year. Much of the increase in milk production in Denmark and the Netherlands was utilized for butter. Deliveries to creameries in Ireland were higher than a year ago, and butter production was up. Some of the surplus milk available for manufacturing in the United Kingdom was absorbed by butter factories. Production was down in both Norway and Sweden. In Canada and the United States, butter production increased substantially over the earlier year.

Cheese production in the opening quarter of 1956 was 6 percent above the corresponding quarter of 1955. More cheese was produced in the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, but less in Denmark. Considerably larger quantities of cheese were produced in the United Kingdom than a year ago. Production in Australia and New Zealand declined. In both Canada and the United States, cheese production was heavier than in first quarter, 1955.

Production of canned milk was just below the 1955 level. Output was up in the Netherlands and Canada, but down in the United States.

Dried milk production in the first 3 months of 1956 rose 16 percent over the preceding year, with each of the four countries for which information is available reporting substantial increases in output.

Prospects from both Australia and New Zealand are generally favorable. Pastures in France will be late, due to lack of rainfall. Frosts and low temperatures in Denmark delayed the start of the grazing season. Conditions were generally good in the Netherlands, but poor in Sweden.

FACTORY DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries,
1st quarter (calendar) 1956, with comparisons

Country and Product	Average		1946-50		Total		1955		1956		1956		First Quarter 1956/1955	
	1954-58	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1955	1,000 pounds	2nd Quarter	1,000 pounds	3rd Quarter	1,000 pounds	4th Quarter	1,000 pounds	1956/1955	Percent
BUTTER														
Canada	1/	254,774	277,868	2/	319,687	2/	34,312	106,745	117,103	117,103	61,527	36,842	107	
United States	1/	1,705,240	1,301,830	1/	1,382,400	1/	332,800	440,990	318,945	318,945	289,665	352,290	106	
Belgium	1/	46,179	55,353	1/	99,355	1/	78,263	109,128	97,884	97,884	78,925	83,113	106	
Denmark	1/	400,660	318,697	2/	364,200	2/	21,363	30,995	31,477	31,477	23,586	28,953	136	
Finland	1/	61,287	61,215	1/	107,421	1/	134,968	187,611	175,867	175,867	142,405	161,000	107	
France 1/	1/	529,000	390,471	1/	644,000	1/	134,968	187,611	175,867	175,867	142,405	161,000	107	
Republic of Germany	1/	5/5/560,000	492,188	1/	639,851	1/	3,977	27,462	35,887	35,887	16,827	5,331	134	
Ireland	1/	89,400	68,648	1/	84,153	1/	25,751	56,557	47,529	47,529	32,155	27,462	111	
Netherlands	1/	201,000	155,620	2/	161,992	2/	4,640	9,751	6,047	6,047	2,724	4,511	97	
Norway	1/	24,920	20,049	1/	23,162	1/	37,805	56,252	55,207	55,207	36,351	37,026	98	
Sweden	1/	152,769	216,442	1/	185,595	1/	4,928	18,144	16,197	16,197	10,961	7,616	155	
Switzerland 1/	1/	57,760	36,949	1/	57,540	1/	11,775	17,461	16,197	16,197	10,961	7,616	155	
United Kingdom	1/	44,200	23,529	1/	33,152	1/	40,345	29,762	22,282	22,282	33,273	20,844	113	
Argentina	1/	65,742	100,657	1/	125,662	1/	25,432	17,340	14,653	14,653	20,844	13,408	111	
Union of So. Africa	1/	27,725	44,845	1/	78,269	1/	118,684	65,966	89,515	89,515	169,736	137,552	111	
Australia	1/	415,250	354,371	1/	443,901	1/	123,608	34,541	82,387	82,387	186,525	137,552	111	
New Zealand	1/	366,912	346,095	1/	427,061	1/	123,608	34,541	82,387	82,387	186,525	137,552	111	
CHEESE														
Canada 26/	1/	119,924	114,329	1/	79,238	1/	6,330	27,361	30,925	30,925	14,622	6,947	110	
United States	1/	643,234	1,156,005	1/	1,353,445	1/	294,200	447,045	342,810	342,810	269,360	311,200	106	
Denmark	1/	68,820	123,634	1/	193,344	1/	37,919	63,272	56,659	56,659	35,494	33,069	87	
France 10/	1/	584,000	424,070	1/	758,000	1/	51,800	119,562	102,838	102,838	79,538	56,482	109	
Italy 10/	1/	523,513	491,326	1/	767,642	1/	13,161	22,706	17,255	17,255	10,430	15,126	115	
Netherlands	1/	200,000	176,926	1/	347,738	1/	18,915	37,430	42,802	42,802	24,148	22,721	108	
Norway 12/	1/	39,067	35,564	1/	63,552	1/	28,672	60,480	59,447	59,447	22,400	42,560	148	
Sweden	1/	76,059	115,005	1/	119,275	1/	53,130	7,732	5,779	5,779	7,397	18,964	91	
Switzerland 12/	1/	111,729	107,232	1/	132,717	1/	20,747	11,335	21,773	21,773	34,012	18,964	91	
United Kingdom 1/	1/	109,000	69,888	1/	141,120	1/	67,873	17,967	17,967	17,967	34,012	18,964	91	
Argentina	1/	67,873	209,890	1/	275,575	1/	20,747	11,335	21,773	21,773	34,012	18,964	91	
Union of So. Africa	1/	10,195	17,967	1/	26,553	1/	20,747	11,335	21,773	21,773	34,012	18,964	91	
Australia	1/	48,400	98,396	1/	87,867	1/	20,747	11,335	21,773	21,773	34,012	18,964	91	
New Zealand	1/	210,911	216,842	1/	212,128	1/	67,491	18,436	32,838	32,838	99,363	64,221	95	

1/ Average 1935-38. 2/ Revised. 3/ Average 1948-50. 4/ Total production. 5/ Average 1935-38. 6/ Production year ending June 30. 7/ Estimated. 8/ Annual production figures more complete than monthly figures used in quarterly data. 9/ Production year ending August 31. 9a/ Cheddar cheese only. 10/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of sheep and goats. 11/ For 1948. 12/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of goats. 13/ Both bulk and case goods. 14/ Evaporated whole and condensed whole case goods only. (Estimates of bulk types discontinued). 15/ Less than a 5-year average. 16/ For 1937. 17/ For 1939. 18/ Total dried whole milk and dried skim milk for human consumption. 19/ For 1938.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U.S. representatives abroad, and other information. - July 2, 1956.

WORLD BUTTER PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY, BUT CHEESE OUTPUT CONTINUES UP IN 1955

The Foreign Agricultural Service, Dairy and Poultry Division, will show in a forthcoming circular, FD-5-56, that world production of butter showed a slight decline in 1955, but world cheese output continued an upward trend.

The estimated world butter production of 9,510 million pounds in 1955 was 56 million pounds less than the previous year, due primarily to production decreases in the United States, Denmark, and the Netherlands. Increased output in the U. S. S. R., Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the Union of South Africa was not strong enough to overcome these declines.

Cheese production in the 24 reporting countries during 1955 showed a 12-million-pound increase over 1954 and stood at 5,379 million pounds. Production in Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom declined; and increases in Argentina, Denmark, the Netherlands, Greece, Italy, and Switzerland, were responsible for the net increase.

DENMARK-U.S.S.R. MAKE TRADE AGREEMENT

In a two-year agreement, effective May 15, 1956, Denmark agreed to supply the U.S.S.R. with 22.4 million pounds of butter and 4.5 million pounds of cheese. Should the U.S.S.R. require additional imports of butter, Denmark is to have priority in supplying them.

NEW WEST GERMAN DOLLAR LIBERALIZATION LIST CONTAINS FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST TO U.S. AGRICULTURE

West Germany published its fourth dollar liberalization list on June 19. This list does not add any major U.S. agricultural export product to those already liberalized, i.e. cotton, tobacco, oilseeds, and raw fats and oils. In fact, the only newly-liberalized products of some actual or potential interest to U.S. agriculture are liquid, frozen, and dried eggs; alsike clover and red top grass seeds; dried apples and pears; tomato powder; tomato juice; almonds; figs; dates; olives; poultry fat; poultry liver; and other liver for pharmaceutical purposes.

TRANSSHIPMENTS MEXICAN COTTON
DOWN IN APRIL BUT OVER YEAR AGO

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through United States ports in April 1956 amounted to 103,000 bales (500 pounds gross) as compared with 140,000 bales in March and 69,000 bales in April 1955. These figures include cotton, cotton linters, waste, and hull fiber, but do not include cotton exported directly from Mexican ports to foreign destinations or rail shipments to Canada.

The unusually heavy movement of Mexican cotton throughout the current year is evidenced by the August-April 1955-56 total of 1,164,000 bales which is 56 percent higher than the 746,000 bales transshipped during the same months of 1954-55.

Principal destinations of Mexican transshipments in the current period, with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were: Western Germany 258,000 bales (114,000); Japan 237,000 (235,000); United Kingdom 169,000 (98,000); Netherlands 128,000 (93,000); Belgium 103,000 (108,000); Italy 62,000 (17,000); Sweden 55,000 (21,000); Australia 22,000 (none); and Switzerland 21,000 (21,000). Data on rail shipments to Canada are not reported in transshipment statistics, but an indication of present volume is shown by Canada's imports from Mexico during August-March 1955-56 which amounted to 196,000 bales as compared with only 4,000 bales a year ago.

Cotton covered by the transshipment figures above is shown on Mexico's trade records as exports to the United States. Exports from Mexico to all destinations during August-April 1955-56 amounted to 1,787,000 bales or 64 percent higher than direct exports of 1,090,000 bales in the same months of 1954-55.

EXPORTS U.S. COTTON LINTERS
FOR APRIL LARGER THAN LAST YEAR

United States exports of cotton linters, predominantly the chemical grades 5-7, amounted to 48,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in April 1956, as compared with exports of 43,000 bales in March and 44,000 bales in April 1955.

Exports of linters during the 9-month period August-April 1955-56 amounted to 369,000 bales, 52 percent more than exports of 243,000 bales in the comparable period of 1954-55.

Principal destinations of United States linters during August-April 1955-56 with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were: Western Germany 109,000 bales (85,000); United Kingdom 78,000 (60,000); France 71,000 (36,000); Japan 48,000 (26,000); Netherlands 33,000 (10,000); and Canada 21,000 (17,000).

Stocks held by Swiss mills as of April 30, 1956, were reported at 96,000 bales or 12 percent below stocks of 109,000 bales held a year earlier. Stocks on August 1, 1955, amounted to 98,000 bales. Percentages of the various growths held on April 30, 1956, were as follows: Egyptian 34 percent; Mexican 19 percent; Peruvian 17 percent; American 13 percent; all others 17 percent.

PAKISTAN'S COTTON CROP SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN LAST YEAR

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of Pakistan, has issued the fourth official estimate of the 1955-56 cotton crop at 1,364,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or 5 percent higher than last year's crop of 1,300,000 bales. The increase in production is not in proportion to the increase of 11 percent in acreage, as the crop suffered heavily from late rains in the Hyderabad and Khairpur divisions and heavy floods in a large portion of the cotton belt.

Comparison of this latest estimate with last year's final supplemental estimate is as follows:

Pakistan: Cotton acreage and production, crop years 1954-55
and 1955-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Type	Acreage		Production	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>acres</u>	<u>acres</u>	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>
American.....	2,616	2,956	1,110	1,181
Desi.....	569	581	190	183
Total.....	3,185	3,537	1,300	1,364

IMPORTS U.S. COTTON LINTERS FOR APRIL ABOVE 1955

United States imports of cotton linters, mostly felting grades 1-4, amounted to 16,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in April 1956, as compared with 18,000 bales in March and 15,000 bales in April 1955.

Imports of linters during the 9 months, August-April 1955-56, amounted to 162,000 bales or 31 percent higher than imports of 124,000 bales in the similar period a year ago.

Principal sources of linters imports during the current period with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were: Mexico 110,000 bales (69,000); U.S.S.R. 34,000 (21,000); Brazil 6,000 (12,000); El Salvador 3,000 (3,000); Peru 2,000 (2,000); Belgium 2,000 (400); Guatemala 1,000 (10,000); and Nicaragua 1,000 (1,000).

CANADA'S COTTON CONSUMPTION DECLINED IN MAY

Cotton consumption in Canada during May 1956 amounted to 29,000 bales (500 pounds gross), a decline of 14 percent from the 33,800 bales consumed in April, and 12 percent below the 33,000-bale consumption in May 1955. The decline was attributed to shutdowns by several mills because of labor disputes.

Demand for cotton textiles continues strong in Canada and an expansion of mill capacity is underway. Consumption during the first 10 months of the 1955-56 year amounted to 332,000 bales or 9 percent higher than consumption of 304,000 bales in August-May 1954-55. Canadian cotton mills are operating at the best levels in several years. Most mills are operating at about 2½ shifts and total mill consumption for the year is expected to reach about 385,000 bales, the highest since the 1950-51 season.

Cotton imports into Canada amounted to 278,000 bales during the 9 months August-March 1955-56 or 15 percent more than imports of 241,000 bales a year earlier. The marked shift to Mexican cotton continued, and imports from that country amounted to 71 percent of the August-March total as compared with only 2 percent a year ago. Imports of United States cotton declined from 231,000 bales in the first 9 months of 1954-55 to 67,000 bales in the current period, a decline from 96 percent of last year's total to only 24 percent this year.

No figures on cotton stocks are available at the present time, but it has been reported that most mills have only enough cotton on hand to run until mid-August. Buying had been postponed in recent months pending determination of the prices at which Commodity Credit Corporation stocks would be made available. Announcement of the results of the first round of bidding under the new export program was made on June 16, 1956.

PHILIPPINE PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS OF COCONUT PRODUCTS EXPECTED TO BE UP IN 1956; FIRST QUARTER SITUATION FAVORABLE

Philippine production of coconut products is expected to increase in 1956. A somewhat larger movement of copra to foreign markets also is expected. If increased demand develops, the Philippines is expected to be in a favorable supply position and prices probably will continue firm or slightly higher.

Production of copra and coconut oil during the first quarter of 1956 totaled over 302,000 long tons in terms of copra equivalent. This is an increase of almost one-third from production in the first quarter of 1955. While a seasonal downturn in output during this period of the year resulted in a decline of 4 percent in production from the last quarter of 1955, the seasonal decline was much less than normal. Favorable weather with no serious damaging typhoons during the last 2 years has been the major factor contributing to larger production.

PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC: Copra and coconut oil production in
copra equivalent, average 1947-51, annual 1953-55
and January-March 1955-56

(Long tons)

	Average 1947-51	1953	1954	1955 <u>1</u> /	January-March <u>1</u> / 1955 1956	
Exports:						
Copra.....	720,487	592,267	758,002	814,145	173,545	221,067
Coconut oil as copra <u>2</u> /...	87,517	92,998	104,337	117,102	23,972	39,152
Total as copra.....	808,004	685,265	862,339	931,247	197,517	260,219
Domestic utilization:						
Coconut oil as copra <u>2</u> /...	89,035	124,713	139,868	146,889	36,722	41,848
Total production as						
Copra <u>3</u> /.....	897,039	809,978	1,002,207	1,078,136	234,239	302,067
<u>1</u> /Preliminary. <u>2</u> / Computed at 63 percent oil extraction rate. <u>3</u> / Excluding coco- nut utilized in making of home-made oil and native culinary preparation.						

Source: Philippine trade.

The quality of Philippine copra, as observed by foreign buyers, has shown some improvement. Beginning June 18, all first domestic purchases of copra were to be subject to an official check by a copra meter. However, on June 18, the Philippine Coconut Administration decided to defer temporarily the implementation of the moisture meter law in view of the fact that no approved copra moisture meters are available.

The total copra crush during the first quarter of 1956 is estimated at 81,000 tons, with production of 51,030 tons of oil and 25,920 tons of copra cake and meal.

Desiccated coconut production during the period totaled 7,244 tons, an increase of about one-fifth from the same period in 1955. Despite the increase, production was at only 50 percent of normal factory capacity. Trade sources indicate some competition from copra buyers for nuts. However, had there been effective demand for desiccated coconut there would have been little or no difficulty filling it, since margins in this part of the industry enable the obtaining of a sufficient supply of nuts at all times.

Exports during the first quarter of 1956 with comparable figures for 1955 were as follows: copra - 221,067 long tons (173,545); coconut oil - 24,666 (15,102); and desiccated coconut - 7,748 (6,096). Through May the Philippines had exported 366,825 tons of copra and 37,949 tons of coconut oil (See Foreign Crops and Markets June 18, 1956, "Late News", page 804.)

Wholesale prices of copra in Manila averaged 25.30 pesos per 100 kilos (\$128.53 per long tons) resecada basis, about 15 percent below the comparable 1955 price. Price weakness early in the quarter was due in part to the large quantities afloat that were unsold. Coconut oil prices in Manila were relatively stable during the quarter averaging $43 \frac{2}{3}$ pesos per kilo (9.9 cents per pound), about 20 percent below the first quarter of 1955.

Copra export prices in the January-March quarter averaged \$148.40 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific coast, about 12 percent below the comparable 1955 period. Coconut oil export prices averaged 10.6 U.S. cents per pound f.o.b. tank cars Pacific coast, about 14 percent below the comparable 1955 period.

Interesting developments affecting prices were: The sale of coconut oil to Europe at prices above American equivalent; the purchase of coconut oil by New York buyers at prices above parity with prevailing Pacific coast prices; and the increase in freight rates to Europe from 220 to 230 shillings (\$30.80 to \$32.20) per ton.

RECENT EXPORT CURBS HELP STABILIZE INDIAN OILSEED AND OIL MARKET

Prices of Indian oilseeds and oils turned downward towards the end of May, following the Government's temporary bans on exports of mustard, rapeseed, peanut and sesame oils and the sharp increase in the export duties on linseed, castor, nigerseed and kardiseed oils (see Foreign Crops and Markets April 23, 1956).

Continued upward pressure on domestic prices through mid-May had prompted the Government to take these measures to assure adequate local supplies at reasonable prices. The following price changes for the more important export commodities were recorded during the first five months of 1956, converted to U.S. cents per pound:

	<u>Week ended</u>			
	<u>January 14</u>	<u>March 31</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>May 29</u>
Peanuts (bold), Bombay	5.3	6.7	6.8	6.2
Peanut oil, Bombay	10.8	14.1	14.3	13.3
Linseed oil, "	13.6	17.1	14.7	13.9
Castor oil, "	9.7	11.3	12.5	11.6

The main factors reportedly responsible for the price rise were: Smaller peanut and sesame crops this year; rumors of a short mustard crop; strong demand from vanaspati (shortening) manufacturers, and expectations of continued high-level foreign demand for linseed and castor oils. In addition, there is a general upward movement of food prices.

The downturn in the market towards the end of May - which was not evident for other farm products - is said to be due, in addition to the export restrictions, to slackening of export demand for castor oil and to fears in the trade that credit curbs, similar to those recently applied to rice, would be extended to oilseeds.

SWEDEN'S LIQUID OIL IMPORT REQUIREMENTS
EXPECTED TO BE RELATIVELY LARGE

Sweden will need to import relatively large quantities of liquid oil for the margarine industry in 1956-57, according to the latest information received by the Foreign Agricultural Service. Winterkill to an extent of 85 percent of the winter rape is indicated in recent unofficial crop surveys. Total acreage harvested from winter and spring seeded oil crops probably will be less than 40 percent of last year's. Consequently, even under favorable conditions the output of liquid oils would not exceed 17,000 short tons compared with total domestic requirements of around 38,000 tons.

Oilseed acreage reached a peak of 474,000 acres in 1951 of which 58,560 acres was flaxseed. Since that year the acreage has been reduced sharply due to smaller seedings of flaxseed and spring seeded oilcrops. In 1955, about 250,000 acres were harvested of which 248,000 acres was rape and mustard seed and 2,000 acres flaxseed. This was only a slight increase from 1954. Production amounted to over 159,000 tons of rape and mustard seed and 694 tons (25,000 bushels) of flaxseed or a total of almost 160,000 tons compared with 183,500 tons in 1954.

Due to a considerable increase in stocks in 1954 and some increase in imports in 1955, total supplies of oilseeds increased by about 5 percent in 1955. Crushings increased to about 193,000 tons which is about the maximum under present capacity. Oilseed imports consisted largely of copra (67,600 tons) and soybeans (7,433 tons or 247,760 bushels). Exports were almost entirely rapeseed (35,353 tons).

Table 1 - SWEDEN: Oil seed supply and utilization, 1954 and 1955

Item	1954	1955
	Short tons	Short tons
Stocks, January 1.....	119,155	159,595
Production:		
Rape and mustard seed.....	181,220	159,170
Flaxseed.....	2,245	695
Imports.....	74,710	77,020
Total supply.....	377,330	396,480
Exports.....	28,840	35,645
Human consumption.....	315	200
Feed.....	165	220
Crushings.....	183,400	192,695
Seed and waste.....	5,015	4,180
Stocks, December 31.....	159,595	163,540
Total distribution.....	377,330	396,480

Human consumption of fats and oils increased in 1955 whereas a considerable decrease occurred in the use of fats and oils for industrial purposes due to increased use of detergents.

Table 2 - SWEDEN: Fats and oils supply and utilization, 1954 and 1955

Item	1954	1955
	Short tons	
Stocks, January 1.....	28,660	33,290
Production.....	110,790	114,300
Imports.....	67,310	63,710
Total supply.....	206,760	211,300
Exports.....	32,140	43,100
Consumption:		
Human.....	93,760	100,435
Industrial.....	47,570	36,155
Stocks, December 31.....	33,290	31,610
Total distribution.....	206,760	211,300

Principal fats and oils domestically produced were animal fats, rape and mustard oil, soybean oil and coconut oil. Among imported oils, whale oil (32,889 tons), linseed oil (13,542) and coconut oil (4,044 tons) were of principal significance. Relatively large quantities of hydrogenated animal fats, rapeseed oil, soybean oil and fatty acids were exported.

Supply and use of oilcakes rose considerably as a result of the poor 1955 crop of feed grains and hay. Consumption is expected to continue at a high level in 1956.

Table 3 - SWEDEN: Oil cakes and fish meal 1/ supply and utilization, 1954 and 1955

Item	1954	1955
	Short tons	
Stocks, January <u>2/</u>	2,200	1,915
Production.....	103,505	107,460
Imports.....	141,095	149,730
Total supply.....	246,800	259,105
Exports.....	56,645	11,430
Feed.....	188,240	244,860
Stocks, December 31 <u>2/</u>	1,915	2,815
Total distribution.....	246,800	259,105

1/ The following feed products are not included (1955 consumption within parentheses): meat meal (11,680 tons); bone meal and mineral feed (29,760 tons); fish liver oil for feed (4,080 tons) and vitamin feed (12,125 tons). 2/ Factory stocks only.

The 1955 crop, as in previous years, has been purchased by Swedish Oil Interest Association (SOI) which also has stored and dried the seed and sold the largest quantity to the two domestic oil processors. The remainder has been exported through the Swedish Grain Association, a semi-governmental monopoly.

Effective September 1, 1956 a new system for supporting domestic oil-seed crop production and the price of butter will go into effect. The support will be given in the form of import excises for fats and oils fixed for a period of 3 years in lieu of the present system with Government price guaranties. The goal price to producers for winter rape seed has been fixed at 75 ore per kilo (6.6 cents per pound), the floor price at 65 ore (5.7 cents) and the ceiling price at 85 ore (7.4 cents)--18 percent moisture. Prices will be permitted to swing freely between the floor and ceiling levels in response to world market prices, but protective actions will be taken if the domestic price falls below the floor level. Imports will be entirely free as long as domestic prices remain within the established ceiling and floor levels. An import fee of 30 ore per kilo (2.6 cents) of fats and oils and oil contained in imported seed will be introduced. The regulation excise--at present kr. 1.58 per kilo (13.8 cents)--will be reduced by the amount of the import excise and by additionally 54 ore (4.7 cents) because of a planned reduction in the margarine price by 50 ore per kilo--4.4 cents--(45 ore--3.9 cents--lower factory price and 5 ore--0.4 cents--lower sales margin). The regulation excise, which has the purpose of assuring a larger outlet for butter will, as now, be applied also to imported fats and oils and to fats and oils derived from imported seed.

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Postwar Development of Agricultural Production and Food Consumption in Western Europe. FAS - M - 7

Production of Citrus in the Union of South Africa Continues to Expand.
Foreign Agriculture Circular FCF 3-56

1956 Italian Filbert Outlook. Foreign Agriculture Circular FN5 - 56

1956 Italian Almond Outlook. Foreign Agriculture Circular FN 4-56

WORLD COFFEE PRODUCTION FOR 1955-56
ESTIMATED AT 50.2 MILLION BAGS

Total world production of green coffee for the marketing year 1955-56 is estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 50.2 million bags. The crop appears to be the largest on record and 5.2 million bags larger than the forecast made in July 1955. Major increases above earlier indications occur in Brazil and French West Africa. The 1955-56 production estimate is approximately 20 percent higher than for 1954-55, and exceeds the average of the prewar 30's by about the same extent.

Exportable production for the marketing year 1955-56, which is drawing to a close in most countries, is 43.2 million bags. This exceeds the Foreign Agricultural Service estimate of a year ago for this crop by about 18 percent and exceeds the 1954-55 exportable production by 28 percent. The percentage variance between total production and exportable production is accounted for largely by the marketing of past crop coffees in Brazil. The marketing year in Brazil ends on June 30 and the exportable production is now evident. The marketing season in Colombia, second largest producer, is not complete until October.

Production in North America is estimated at 5.5 million bags. This total represents a downward adjustment during the past year for Mexico, and Haiti and upward adjustment for El Salvador, Honduras and Caribbean areas other than Haiti.

The 1955-56 estimate for Africa is 8.4 million bags, almost 26 percent above the 6.6 million bags of 1954-55. Increased production is noted for every area on the continent as new plantings increased its output almost 31 percent and stocks of Robusta coffees are expected to reach about 667,000 bags.

FORECAST 1956-57 - Total World production of green coffee for the marketing year 1956-57 is forecast by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 46.7 million bags on the basis of development to date. The crop forecast is 7 percent less than the 50.2 million bags estimated for 1955-56, but 12 percent above the 41.9 million bags crop of 1954-55, and 12 percent above the average outturn of the prewar period.

Exportable production from the 1956-57 crop is forecast at 38.7 million bags, compared with 43.2 million bags for 1955-56 and 33.5 million bags for 1954-55. The anticipated decline of 5.5 million bags in Brazil for 1956-57 is partially offset by the 1.1 million bag increase expected for mild coffee production areas of the Western Hemisphere. During 1956-57, it is indicated that 16.4 million bags will be registered with the Brazilian Coffee Institute (I.B.C.), of which 8.8 million bags will be from Sao Paulo, 1.5 million bags from Parana and 6.1 million bags from other states.

Indications are that Africa will maintain its current level of output during 1956-57.

GREEN COFFEE: World total production for the marketing year 1956/57, with comparisons 1/
(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Averages		1952-53	Preliminary estimate			July 2, 1956	Forecast
	1935/36- 1939/40	1946/47- 1950/51		1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	
NORTH AMERICA								
Costa Rica.....	390	371	551	395	564	421	613	
Cuba.....	425	564	451	595	642	906	767	
Dominican Republic.....	347	348	442	526	485	595	515	
El Salvador.....	1,091	1,203	1,365	1,070	1,335	1,210	1,400	
Guatemala.....	1,002	1,044	1,119	1,110	1,080	1,090	1,187	
Haiti.....	538	617	616	768	528	720	567	
Honduras.....	57	131	197	249	260	287	300	
Mexico.....	959	1,004	1,461	1,415	1,600	1,400	1,750	
Nicaragua.....	280	277	372	339	443	355	476	
Other North America..2/	251	311	420	575	520	560	540	
Total North America..	5,340	5,870	7,024	7,072	7,457	7,544	8,115	
SOUTH AMERICA								
Brazil.....	25,340	18,704	19,170	19,700	18,100	23,500	19,000	
Colombia.....	4,452	5,840	6,405	7,088	6,405	7,200	7,400	
Ecuador.....	254	270	390	330	437	375	460	
Peru.....	80	93	153	163	190	180	200	
Venezuela.....	940	698	960	670	820	720	900	
Other South America..3/	83	49	62	66	70	70	75	
Total South America..	31,149	25,654	27,110	28,017	26,022	32,045	28,035	
AFRICA								
Angola.....	300	816	957	1,269	962	1,178	1,178	
Belgian Congo.....	320	538	550	630	575	765	885	
Ethiopia.....	345	343	719	653	762	900	820	
French West Africa.....	250	940	1,218	1,543	1,685	2,185	2,085	
Kenya.....	297	156	215	227	236	425	460	
Madagascar.....	537	503	740	790	636	910	720	
Tanganyika.....	263	240	223	322	305	360	310	
Uganda.....	225	494	571	630	1,180	1,290	1,410	
Other Africa..4/	65	355	414	470	558	605	615	
Total Africa.....	2,602	4,385	5,607	6,534	6,899	8,618	8,363	
ASIA AND OCEANIA								
India.....	278	323	399	498	418	547	660	
Indonesia.....	1,961	485	1,008	948	684	1,000	1,100	
Yemen.....	80	99	67	80	70	70	70	
Other Asia and Oceania..5/	176	94	268	300	310	370	375	
Total Asia and Oceania..	2,495	1,001	1,742	1,826	1,482	1,987	2,205	
TOTAL WORLD PRODUCTION	41,586	36,910	41,513	43,449	41,860	50,194	46,718	

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. The 1956-57 season as used here began July 1, 1956.

2/ Includes B.W.I., Panama Republic, and Puerto Rico. 3/ Subject to further revision. Includes Bolivia, Surinam, and Paraguay. 4/ Exportable production only. Includes Cape Verde, French Cameroon, French Equatorial Africa and French Togoland, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Spanish Africa, Gold Coast and Nigeria.

5/ Includes French Indochina, North Borneo, Philippine Republic, Hawaii, New Caledonia, and New Hebrides.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

GREEN COFFEE: World exportable production for the marketing year 1956-57,
with comparisons 1/

(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Average		1952-53	Preliminary Estimate			July 2, 1956	
	1946/47-1950/51			1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	Forecast 1956-57	
NORTH AMERICA								
Costa Rica.....	316	478	331	508	364	552		
Cuba.....	112	1	-	33	317	211		
Dominican Republic.....	236	351	436	394	505	423		
El Salvador.....	1,108	1,232	927	1,190	1,064	1,250		
Guatemala.....	834	939	950	890	900	997		
Haiti.....	421	411	578	328	520	370		
Honduras.....	75	151	189	200	227	240		
Mexico.....	685	1,245	1,215	1,400	1,200	1,550		
Nicaragua.....	214	317	284	388	300	416		
Other North America.....	31	45	135	72	112	87		
Total North America..2/.....	4,032	5,170	5,045	5,403	5,509	6,096		
SOUTH AMERICA								
Brazil.....	14,380	15,200	14,300	14,200	21,000	15,500		
Colombia.....	5,200	5,705	6,348	5,665	6,500	6,700		
Ecuador.....	245	351	290	397	335	420		
Peru.....	14	75	74	110	94	112		
Venezuela.....	438	746	439	557	420	600		
Other South America.....	22	48	52	55	55	60		
Total South America..3/.....	20,299	22,125	21,503	20,984	28,404	23,392		
AFRICA								
Angola.....	828	949	1,261	954	1,170	1,050		
Belgian Congo.....	522	533	613	559	750	870		
Ethiopia.....	274	652	587	696	833	750		
French West Africa.....	858	1,133	1,458	1,600	2,100	2,000		
Kenya.....	150	207	219	228	415	450		
Madagascar.....	453	692	743	586	860	667		
Tanganyika.....	234	216	315	295	350	300		
Uganda.....	488	561	620	1,168	1,280	1,400		
Other Africa..4/.....	355	414	470	558	605	615		
Total Africa.....	4,162	5,357	6,286	6,644	8,363	8,102		
ASIA AND OCEANIA								
India.....	27	108	163	60	69	150		
Indonesia.....	108	387	802	380	670	800		
Yemen.....	89	58	58	50	50	50		
Other Asia and Oceania..5/.....	37	72	91	85	118	125		
Total Asia and Oceania.....	261	625	1,114	575	907	1,125		
WORLD EXPORTABLE PRODUCTION	28,754	33,277	33,948	33,606	43,183	38,715		

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. The 1956-57 season as used here began July 1, 1956.

2/ Includes Jamaica, Trinidad, Panama, Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe. 3/ Subject to further revision.

4/ Includes Cape Verde, French Cameroon, French Equatorial Africa, Gold Coast and Nigeria. 5/ Includes French New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Portuguese Timor and Hawaii.

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